

Sub A17

1. A method for providing an one-way communication among a selected group of telephones in a telephone system having a plurality of telephones, comprising the steps of:

Assigning a group number to each of said plurality of telephones.

Selecting a group number at a paging telephone selected from said plurality of telephones; and

Causing a one-way voice communication to be automatically set up through a voice channel of said telephone system to a group of telephones having said selected group number.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprises the step of displaying an identification number of said paging telephone at a paged telephone of said system.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprises the step of converting said one-way voice communication to a two-way voice communication by answering said page.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said one-way voice communication is set up via a data packet.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said data packet comprises a number corresponding to said selected group number.

6. The method of claim 3 wherein said two-way voice communication is initiated via another data packet.

5 7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of terminating said one-way communication when said paging telephone is on-hook.

10 8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of terminating said one-way communication at a predetermined time period.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said selected group comprises all telephones in said system.

15 10. A method of providing a paging feature in a communication system having no central control, comprising the steps of:

20 selecting a group comprising more than one communication unit at a first communication unit in the system; and

25 initiating automatically a half-duplex voice channel from said first communication unit to said group of communications, in response to a user request.

30 11. A multiline telephone system for providing a paging feature, comprising:

a first telephone for selecting a group of telephones in the system;

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a half duplex channel in the system;

the first telephone initiating a voice message to
the group of telephones using the half-duplex voice
channel, in response to a user request; and the
group of telephones receive and play the voice
message from the first telephone automatically
regardless of user action.

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